

# WOMEN'S GUILD NEWSLETTER

December 2024

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Next Meeting:

**December 16**

**Guild Officers**

PRESIDENT:

Margo McCaul

VICE PRESIDENT:

Ellen Casale

SECRETARY:

Meg Hoover

TREASURER:

Michele Miller

## Guild Meeting

Our December meeting will be our annual Christmas dinner in the hall with the fun gift exchange. The date is moved to Monday, December 16. There will be a recitation of the rosary in the church at 5:30 prior to our dinner and meeting.

The dinner is \$15.00 and checks can be left in the Guild folder at St Jude. If you wish to participate in the gift exchange, bring a wrapped (gift bags work too) item valued up to \$15 to leave under the tree.

We hope to see you there.

## Lessons & Carols

**December 15 ~ 4:00 pm ~ St. Jude**

The choirs and lectors from both St. Jude and Immaculate Conception will present an evening of lessons and carols. There will be a variety of carols and select readings from scripture. The event will be in St. Jude's church proper. All are invited to attend this special, spiritual presentation.

## Field Trip to the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception

**Saturday ~ February 22, 2025 via Bus from St. Jude**

Reservations continue to be accepted for Guild members plus one family member until Monday, December 3. The cost is \$20 per person. From December 4 through the December Guild meeting (12/16) you may reserve seats for any additional Guild family member. Payment can be made with a check left in the Guild folder. Please indicate it is for the trip on the memo line. OR bring the payment to the meeting on the 16th. If any seats remain after the 16th, the trip will be opened to any interested parishioners.



**Our mission is to unite all women of St. Jude and Immaculate Conception Parishes through Religious and Educational activities.**



***Earthly Farewell -  
Heavenly Welcome:***

**Kathie Fridley**

## **WOMEN OF FAITH—SAINT VIRGINIA CENTUROINE BRACELLI**

Virginia Centurione was born on 2 April 1587 in Genoa and was of noble origins. She was the daughter of Giorgio Centurione (who was the Doge of Genoa from 1621 to 1623) and Lelia Spinola.

Despite her desire to live a cloistered life, she was forced into marriage to Gaspare Grimaldi Bracelli, who was a rich noble, on 10 December 1602. She had two daughters: Lelia and Isabella. The marriage did not last long, for she became a widow on 13 June 1607 at the age of 20. She refused another arranged marriage brought on due to her father's influence and took up a vow to live a celibate life.

After her husband's death she began charitable works and assisted the poor and the sick. To help alleviate the poverty in her town she founded the "Cento Signore della Misericordia Protettrici dei Poveri di Gesù Cristo". The center was soon overrun with people suffering from the famine and plague of 1629–30 and soon she had to rent the Monte Calvario convent to accommodate all the people that came in. She created a community which was dedicated to Our Lady of Refuge, but this was later split into two congregations: the Sisters of Our Lady of Refuge in Mount Calvary, and the Daughters of Our Lady on Mount Calvary.

Around 1635 the center was caring for over 300 patients and received recognition as a hospital from the government. Due to declining funds given from the middle and upper classes the institute lost its government recognition in 1647. Bracelli spent the remainder of her life acting as a peacemaker between noble houses and continuing her work for the poor.

Bracelli died on 15 December 1651 at the age of 64.

The work of the Sisters of Our Lady of Refuge in Mount Calvary continued into the 21st century, with sisters working on helping the sick, elderly and poor in hospitals, as well as working with young people in Nicaragua, the Dominican Republic and India.

Bracelli was beatified on 22 September 1985 and was later canonized on 18 May 2003.





### **Guild Book Club - Next Meeting & Book**

**Wednesday, January 15 @ 2:00 pm @ St. Jude**

***Jesus and the Jewish Roots of Mary***

**by Brant Pitre**



The book explores Mary's profound biblical significance. The book reveals Mary's identity as the new Eve, the Mother of God, and the Queen of Heaven, using Old Testament and Ancient Judaism to support these insights.

***All ladies are invited to join - light refreshments will be served***

The book club meets on odd months from September through May. The club reads books with a Catholic/Christian/Religious theme. A variety of fiction and non-fiction books are selected. Questions are sent out in advance (usually about 7 questions). Meetings will be the third Wednesday of September, November, January, March and May at St Jude's at 2 p.m.

#### Schedule & Books:

March 19 - *Beautiful Eucharist* by Matthew Kelly

May 21 - *Tobit's Dog* by Michael Richard

If you have questions, please contact Laura Foussekis (lfoussekis@comcast.net).

## In This Holy Season

Lord, in this holy season of prayer and song and laughter, we praise you for the great wonders you have sent us: for shining star and angel's song, for infant's cry in lowly manger. We praise you for the Word made flesh in a little Child. We behold his glory, and are bathed in its radiance.

Be with us as we sing the ironies of Christmas, the incomprehensible comprehended, the poetry made hard fact, the helpless Babe who cracks the world asunder. We kneel before you shepherds, innkeepers, wise men. Help us to rise bigger than we are. Amen.

- *Author Unknown*



**Birthdays of the Month**

- 7 - Becky Thompson
- 13 - Ro Ayres
- 15 - Susan Coulter
- 19 - Bernadette Witham
- 29 - Judy Kavanagh



**TEAM LEADERS**

Team	Chair	Co-Chair
Advertising	Laura Foussekis	
Bake Sale	Donna Gray	Sally Cool
Banquet	Julie Phelps	Amber Harman
Book Club	Laura Foussekis	Judy Kavanagh
Christmas Bazaar	Connie Fuller	Donna Gray/Wendy Smith Shirley Willis—Silent Auction
Church Beautification	Joan Kelly	Kathleen Cunningham
Lenten Fish Dinners	Michele Miller	Julie Phelps
Martha & Mary Ministry	Lil Connor	
Newsletter	Meg Hoover	
Refreshments	Connie Fuller	
Scholarship	Wendy Smith	
Sunshine/Guild Mass Cards	Mikee Thompson	
Yard Sale	Donna Gray	Sally Cool

For Guild Members Health & Healing:

Lavonne Simmons, Maria Mader, Mary Carole Weiner, Alona Wiedel; Sue Morlino; Sue Handrahan; Virginia Whitehurst; Lorraine Costello; Helen Winston; Ellen Casale; Cathy Austin; Laurie Kane; Ann Marie Worosz; Mary Ann Ptasznik; Marilyn Gutekenst; Ro Ayres; Diana Rivera

For Family & Friends Health & Healing:

Patrick Noto, husband of Karen Muelhauser; Greg Tynes, friend of Becky Chidester; Margit Mertiny, sister of Ursula Canada; Bruno Noto, father-in-law of Karen Muelhauser; Alene Arvin, sister of Mikee Thompson; Debbie Brassard, sister-in-law of Sandy Brassard; Joe Starkey, friend of Becky Chidester; Linda Phelps, sister-in-law of Julie Phelps; Alice Hensley, Mary Adams, & Nancy Lloyd, cousins of Karen Donnelly; Kathie Fridley; Cathleen Morgan, sister-in-law of Ellen Casale; Marian Green, sister of Judy Kavanagh; Grant Adkins, brother-in-law of Ro Ayres and Julie Phelps

Repose of the Soul:

Laura McCaul, mother-in-law of Margo McCaul; Liz Lowe, friend of Karen Muelhauser; Dr. Lillie Pitman, friend of Karen Donnelly; Kathie Fridley

For additions or deletions to the listing; please send an email message to either:

[megger1025@yahoo.com](mailto:megger1025@yahoo.com) OR [lcladiesguild@gmail.com](mailto:lcladiesguild@gmail.com)

